

14. (Amended) A method for querying heterogeneous data sources over a network, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) accessing a plurality of heterogeneous data sources to be queried, each of which includes local information relating to a first semantic data context associated with the heterogeneous data source;

(b) receiving a request having a second semantic data context and comparing said first semantic data context and said second semantic data context to determine if a conflict between those contexts exists;

(c) [(a)] translating [a] the request responsive to the conflict determination [having an associated semantic data context] into a query having at least one semantic data context associated with the at least one of the heterogeneous data sources [to be queried]; and

(d) [(b)] translating received data from the first semantic data contexts associated with each of the heterogeneous data sources into the second semantic data context associated with the request.

26. (Amended) An article of manufacture having computer-readable program means for querying heterogeneous data sources over a network embodied thereon, the article comprising:

computer-readable program means for accessing a plurality of heterogeneous data sources to be queried, each of which includes local information relating to semantic data context associated with the heterogeneous data source;

computer-readable program means associated with each requestor for translating a request having an associated semantic data context into a query having at least a second semantic data context associated with the at least one of the heterogeneous data sources [to be queried]; and

computer-readable program means for translating received data from the semantic data contexts associated with the heterogeneous data sources into the semantic data context associated with the request.